UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
LIBERIA

IPF:(1987-91) $21 497 000

(LIR/90/001) - Emergency Logistic Support

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	25 March 1992
Expected duration:	One year
Proposed executing agency:	UNDP/OPS
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Planning, IGNU
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 443 300 Source of funds: IPF
Third-party cost sharing:	$1 203 400 Source of funds: WFP, CIDA, Austria
Previous UNDP contribution:	$2 221 600
Total UNDP budget:	$4 868 300

Project background

The civil strife which started in Liberia in December 1989 resulted in the flight of approximately 750,000 Liberians to the neighbouring countries of Cote d'Ivoire (300,000), Guinea (325,000) and Sierra Leone (125,000); displacement of about 1.5 million people within Liberia; closure of UNDP office and suspension of UNDP development programme and projects in July 1990. The UNDP Resident Representative together with a skeleton staff moved to Conakry (Guinea) from where he operated as United Nations Special Co-ordinator to co-ordinate the United Nations system response to the humanitarian needs of Liberian refugees and affected host population in the impacted neighbouring countries.

The UNDP/OPS project was approved in 1990 with a view to enabling the United Nations Special Co-ordinator, while he was still based temporarily in Conakry, to facilitate speedy start of emergency activities in Liberia as soon as the United Nations system returned to Monrovia, and also to assist him and his team in Guinea to perform his coordination functions in the three neighbouring countries. To the initial IPF budget of$2.2 million was subsequently added $303,413 which CIDA and Austria contributed as cost-sharing for emergency logistic support.

Since the start of the United Nations system's emergency relief activities in Monrovia in November 1990, the project has been providing logistic support not only to the United Nations system but also to NGOs active in relief operations in Liberia. Their combined efforts in assisting the people of Liberia have helped in creating an enabling environment for the national authorities to plan and eventually embark upon a programme of

[1/] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

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rehabilitation and reconstruction. The project under the authority of the Special Co-ordinator also provided support to the following goals: (a) creation of a hospital (UNICEF/Swedrelief) in central Monrovia and an ambulance service; (b) provision of a generator to the airport to facilitate communication and landing of aircrafts; (c) rehabilitation of a petrol station to provide fuel to all relief agencies and groups; (d) setting up of a communication centre with satellite telephone, fax and radio telex; (e) provision of 27 vehicles, 4 trucks, 2 water tankers with drivers; and (f) provision of office space and a meeting hall and required staff to facilitate the implementation of relief activities.

With a view to rehabilitating and reconstructing the war-torn country and its economy, after a series of meetings organized by ECOWAS since 1990, the two parties - the Interim Government of National Unity (IGNU) and National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPLF) - agreed on the following three major points at the last meeting held in Yamoussoukro (Cote d'Ivoire) on 29-30 October 1991: (1) disarmament and encampment of all armed forces; (2) opening of roads, airports and seaports; and (3) organization of free and fair elections around May-June 1992. The present interim period between the emergency relief and rehabilitation/reconstruction is quite crucial for all concerned and warrants uninterrupted continuation of relief activities. In consultation and agreement with the Interim Government and OPS, the Special Co-ordinator has proposed an expanded logistic support programme for 1992. The expanded activities involve an IPF budgetary increase of $1,143,281 (net). WFP envisages a cost-sharing of $900,000 to be credited to the project as and when sale proceeds are realized through monetization of six monthly installments of 500 MT each of WFP rice. The proceeds will be used under the project (LIR/90/001) for purchase - mainly local - of seeds, agricultural tools and medicines (including necessary supplies to prevent HIV/AIDS.)

The cost-sharing proposal was discussed with the Division of Finance and OPS and suggested arrangements within the framework and through this revision of the UNDP/OPS project have been conveyed for WFP's consideration. In order to enable UNSCOL and WFP to start the envisaged purchase and pending the sale and realization of proceeds, an initial amount of $300,000 will be placed at the disposal of the project from IPF (included in the proposed amount of revision) which will be credited with the realized sales proceeds. OPS has agreed to a support cost of four per cent for the WFP cost-sharing component.

Description of project

The revised relief support programme will seek to : (a) extend humanitarian assistance to target groups throughout Liberia; and (b) contribute to weaning population from free food distribution and support food production.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a project manager (12 work-months); administrative support staff; subcontracts for NGOs for food distribution; and expendable equipment.

WFP will provide over six months 3,000 tonnes of rice equivalent to (US)$900,000. The proceeds realized by the sale of rice will be used to procure additional non-food relief commodities such as seeds, tools, drugs (including prevention of HIV/AIDS), educational materials etc..

Financial data

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Personnel	531 300
Subcontract	275 000
Training	20 000
Equipment	510 000
Miscellaneous	107 000
Total	1 443 300